

beginning more than 1,000 years ago, but his remarks fitted the position his Government has taken on the touchy modern issue, which has resulted in a British decision to "isolate" the island neutral.

"We have, indeed, endured much and had many crises in this old nation of ours," he said. "All these times of emergency found our nation, as in other days, with qualities which I feel we can call upon unreservedly today.

"In all that long period of endurance our people were maligned. It is the way of the strong toward the weak. It goes back to the beginning of time and will continue as long as the strong seek excuses for using their strength to obtain what in justice they are not entitled to. You know it and you are prepared for it should it come."

"Dangers from outside on many former occasions, instead of weakening the resolve of our people, served to make more firm the resolve of our people, knit them closely together and brought strength and resource that matched the pressure put upon them.

"When external force succeeded and our people were overborne physically, they did not abandon the struggle, nor did they cede their rights or surrender their will. Even in our failures we were in the lasting sense victorious. We outlived the evil done to us and we exist today as a separate nation because we were willing to endure and were not willing to yield."

At the beginning of his address he said:

"We are no newcomer among nations. Our nationhood is no status recently conferred on us from outside but is something peculiarly our own with its origin deep into the past and its development a significant portion of world history."

Mr. de Valera expressed Eire's concern for the Pope, saying, "We

DUBLIN, March 17 (U.P.)—President Eamon de Valera declined to issue his usual St. Patrick's Day message to America "in view of the situation which has developed."

"I consider it inadvisable to make any statement at the moment," he said. "Naturally, I wish our countrymen in America every happiness and many more years of joy."

IRISH WARNED ON STAND

Representative Gore Speaker at Brooklyn St. Patrick's Fete

Stressing the strong friendship between the United States and Ireland, Representative Albert A. Gore of Tennessee last night warned that Ireland must take a practical view on the question of neutrality or the country will hinder the Allied cause. The Washington legislator addressed 850 members and friends of the St. Patrick's Society of Brooklyn at the Hotel St. George, Brooklyn.

"From the British Isles there is now pending one of the greatest, and perhaps the most decisive, military movements in the history of mankind," Mr. Gore said. "Defeat of our invasion forces might mean that Hitler would win the war. Information in the hands of the enemy on the preparations now in progress might bring about that defeat. Even if it didn't, it would most assuredly cost many American lives.

"Ireland's desire to be neutral and to stay out of the war is understandable. Surely Americans, who themselves not only had neutrality pains but remained out of the fight during very dark days for our friends and did not actually go to war until attacked at Pearl Harbor, can understand."

"I hope that as we in America slowly but surely come to accept the realism of this total global war, Ireland will soon see that to pur-

nication between Turkey and Sofia, the Bulgarian capital, have been interrupted following unrest there resulting from Allied air raids the last two nights. Travelers reported seeing many huge fires in the battered city.

SURVIVES ARCTIC CRASH



Lieut. Leon Crane, 24, of Philadelphia, who reached Fairbanks, Alaska, after eighty-four days in the sub-Arctic wilds. He brought the first word of the fate of a United States bomber missing with five men aboard since Dec. 21. The four others are still missing.

Associated Press Wirephoto

eyewitness description. Engineers say it is an improvisation rather than a new design and that it probably is unwieldy because of stress and "pending moment" must be terrific where the fifth engine is mounted.

The Germans have been talking of surprise aircraft, including a new bomber with twin fuselage, which The Illustrated London News said is "probably none other than two HE 111's locked together."

One advantage of the multi-engined fighters that American air-men frequently reported in action against them is their ability to carry heavy rocket equipment. At the same time their equipment makes them an easy target for faster fighters.

BOMBING PROTEST SCORED

29 in Council of Christian Churches Back the Air War

"We cannot leave unchallenged the widely publicized statement issued by twenty-eight churchmen characterizing the bombing of German cities as un-Christian," said a declaration issued yesterday from the office of the American Council of Christian Churches, 340 West Fifty-fifth Street, bearing the names of twenty-nine churchmen of the council's group.

"The twenty-eight are not merely against the bombing of cities; they are against this war," continued the declaration. "The only way their desire in this matter can be satisfied is to break off the war exactly as it is now. But we believe that the enemy must be utterly defeated. God has given us the weapons. Let us use them."

The twenty-nine signers are headed by the Rev. Carl McIntyre, pastor of the Bible Presbyterian Church, Collingswood, N. J., president of the council.

twice today by two brand United States Army F the Royal Air Force h hard, not many hours b

In mid-afternoon today er medium bombers of States Ninth Air Force the important rail center twenty miles north of P Thunderbolts offered s coverage to such an exte impenetrable wall was against German fighters same time, Eighth Air Fo bombed airfields in France and the Netherla emplacements and motor were badly hit in this three enemy planes w down. Two of our figh missing after the attack.

The RAF struck at thr A small force of Lancs tacked the Michelin Rub pany factory at Clermont thirty miles southwest This area is one of the portant rubber centers on tinent and is capable of 300,000 tires a month. R quito bombers paid it a de visit Sunday.

While this attack was Hallifaxes and Stirlings r third attack in two days way targets at Amiens, quitoes hit targets in Wes many and laid mines t waters. None of the RAF was missing from these s

In offensive patrols ove and the Netherlands RAF shot down four enemy c lost an equal number.

In the Michelin attack bombing was possible s factories had been rir flares. Returning Lancs lots told of seeing the t perfectly outlined as they m runs to unload their six-tory busters." One fact completely demolished a black clouds of smoke r planes started homeward.

New York Times

March 18, 1944 p.5